

Last Updated: November 2023

Custer County Economic Overview

Civilian Labor Force (Oct 2023) 2.201 **Unemployment Rate (Oct 2023)** 3.8% Population (2022) 4.506 Median Household Income (2021) \$47,663 \$48.619 Per Capita Personal Income (2021) Poverty Rate (2021) 15.1%

Idaho Department of Labor labor.idaho.gov



1. Custer County Demographic Characteristics, 2021 5-Year ACS

	Custer County	Custer County (%)	State of Idaho (%)	United States (%)	
Total Population	4,273	100.0%	1,811,617	329,725,481	
Race and Ethnicity					
White alone, not hispanic	4,160	97.4%	86.5%	68.2%	
Black or African American alone, not hispanic	4	0.1%	0.7%	12.6%	
Native American alone, not hispanic	295	6.9%	1.3%	0.8%	
Asian alone, not hispanic	41	1.0%	1.4%	5.7%	
Hispanic, or Latino (of any race)	197	4.6%	12.9%	18.4%	
Gender					
Male	2,277	53.3%	50.4%	49.5%	
Female	1,996	46.7%	49.6%	50.5%	
Age					
Median age	53.4	-	36.8	38.4	
Under 18 years	723	16.9%	25.3%	22.5%	
Over 18 years	3,550	83.1%	74.7%	77.5%	
21 years and over	3,256	76.2%	65.4%	68.3%	
Over 65 years	1,424	33.3%	15.8%	16.0%	
Educational Attainment (Population 25 years and Over)					
Less than 9th grade	92	2.2%	2.2%	3.3%	
High school graduate (with equivalencies)	934	21.9%	18.7%	18.2%	
Some college, no degree	755	17.7%	16.4%	13.4%	
Associate's degree	249	5.8%	7.0%	6.1%	
Bachelor's degree	770	18.0%	14.0%	14.7%	
Graduate or professional degree	125	2.9%	7.3%	9.5%	
Median Household Income	\$47,663	-	\$63,377	\$69,021	

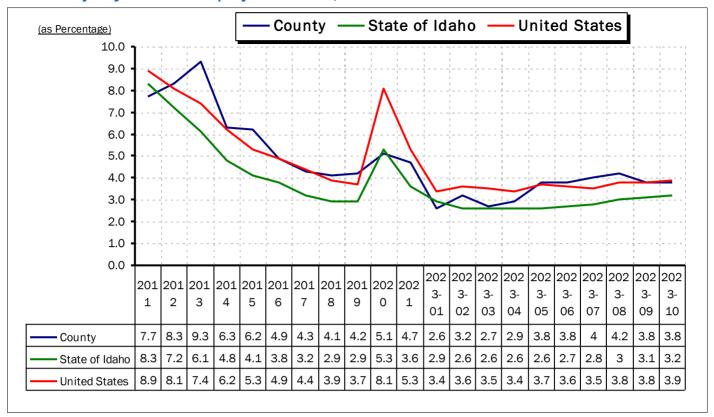
Source: US Census Bureau, American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

2. Labor Force Growth, October 2022 to October 2023

	Labor Force	Employment	Unemployed	Unemployment Rate
October 2023	2,201	2,117	84	3.8%
October 2022	2,236	2,158	78	3.5%
YoY % Change	-1.6%	-1.9%	7.7%	0.3%

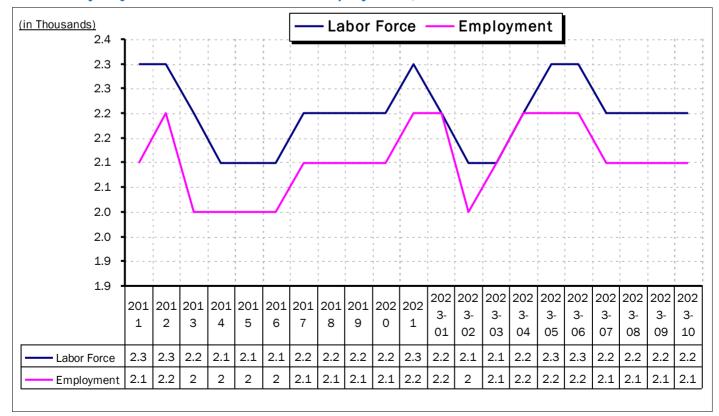
Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

3. Seasonally-Adjusted Unemployment Rate, 2012 to October 2023



Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

4. Seasonally-Adjusted Labor Force and Employment, 2012 to October 2023



Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Local Area Unemployment Statistics (LAUS)

5. Industry Employment and Wages, 2012, 2021, and 2022

	201	2	202	21	202	2
Supersector	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	1,634	\$42,695	1,539	\$35,627	1,490	\$40,140
Natural Resources and Mining	428	\$83,543	117	\$60,114	104	\$66,539
Construction	50	\$32,045	96	\$37,287	88	\$42,261
Manufacturing	9	\$43,508	18	\$33,188	14	\$32,779
Trade,Transportation, and Utilities	226	\$26,723	277	\$33,783	278	\$34,547
Information	38	\$37,214	36	\$56,306	32	\$60,633
Financial Activities	46	\$20,282	19	\$35,103	22	\$42,644
Professional and Business Services	74	\$46,749	53	\$32,282	63	\$59,148
Education and Health Services	241	\$21,192	247	\$25,993	234	\$29,587
Leisure and Hospitality	245	\$15,462	391	\$27,118	381	\$29,951
Other Services	26	\$16,730	31	\$21,861	30	\$24,812
Public Administration	252	\$43,235	246	\$49,412	244	\$55,059

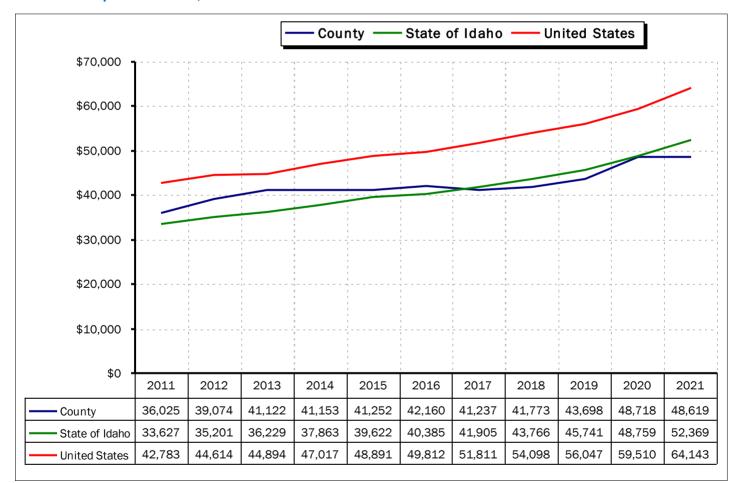
Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Quarterly Census of Employment Wages (QCEW)

6. Top Employers, 2022

Employer	Ownership	Employment Range
U.s. Forest Service	Federal Government	100 - 249
Challis Joint School District	Local Government	050 - 099
Mackay Joint School District	Local Government	010 - 049
Custer County	Local Government	010 - 049
Redfish Lake Lodge	Private	010 - 049
Thompson Creek Mining	Private	010 - 049
Mountain Village Resort	Private	010 - 049
Personal Home Care	Private	010 - 049
Lamb's Market	Private	010 - 049
Mountain Village Restaurant And Saloon	Private	010 - 049

NOTE: Only employers that have given the Department permission to release employment range data are listed. Source: Idaho Department of Labor- Quarterly Census of Employment Wages (QCEW)

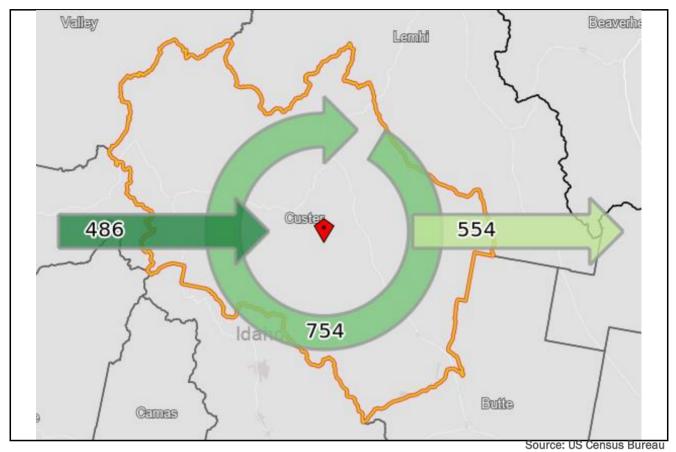
7. Real Per Capita Income, 2011 to 2021



Source: U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis

8. Labor Force Commuting Patterns, 2020

It is estimated that 754 workers lived and worked in Custer County in 2020. Another 486 workers were employed in Custer County but lived outside, while 554 workers commuted to other counties for work.



9. Top 10 Cities Where People Who Work in Custer County Live, 2020

City of Residence	Count of All Jobs	Percentage of Total Jobs
Challis	165	13.3%
Mackay	79	6.4%
Salmon	31	2.5%
Boise City	27	2.2%
Stanley	27	2.2%
Twin Falls	22	1.8%
Arco	18	1.5%
Ammon	9	0.7%
Idaho Falls	9	0.7%
Lost River	8	0.6%

Note: "All Jobs" includes private and public sector jobs. It also includes a count of workers with multiple jobs. Source: US Census Bureau- Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD)

10. Top 10 Cities Where People Who Live in Custer County Work, 2020

City of Employment	Count of All Jobs	Percentage of Total Jobs
Challis	286	21.9%
Mackay	220	16.8%
Idaho Falls	106	8.1%
Boise City	60	4.6%
Stanley	44	3.4%
Salmon	35	2.7%
Pocatello	33	2.5%
Arco	23	1.8%
Ketchum	13	1.0%
Twin Falls	13	1.0%

Note: "All Jobs" includes private and public sector jobs. It also includes a count of workers with multiple jobs. Source: US Census Bureau- Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD)

For more Information, Contact:

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